



PATENTS

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: CHARLES E. COOK et al. Atty. Docket: 86345.000003
Serial No.: 09/301,043 Examiner: J. Rivell
Filed: April 28, 1999 Art Unit: 3753
Title: SEWAGE ELECTOR BASIN AND ASSEMBLY

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated April 18, 2000, Applicant elects to proceed with Claims 1-30 with traverse.

The Examiner has accurately set forth the test for determining whether inventions 1 and 2 are distinct. Applicant submits that even though the Examiner has hypothesized that the product can be made by "producing one identical half and using fluid pressure to expand the molten resin to the mold", this hypothetical method for forming the product is both unsupported by any description of blow molding, and ignores the fact that the claims require a part, referred to as an annular collar or raised annular edge, that Applicant believes would be difficult to form with the method proposed by the Examiner.

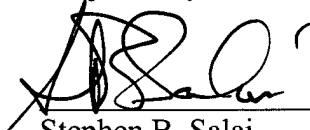
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Stephen B. Salai, 26,990

Refer, for example, to Figure 2. The annular collar 25 would be very difficult if not impossible to form by blow molding as suggested by the Examiner. Spin molding easily produces the structure, but in a blow molded operation, internal pressure would not tend to force the resin into this solid configuration. Blow molding is useful for forming parts having a generally hollow configuration throughout, but is not suitable for forming this sort of collar, which is required by the article claims.

More specifically, Applicant believes that blow molding is normally limited to molded parts having a substantially uniform and relatively thin wall. Applicant also believes that blow molding is a technique normally used with relatively light weight plastics, rather than with resins. Accordingly, Applicant believes that the Examiner has not sufficiently shown that the claimed structure could be formed by blow molding, and without additional support, the restriction requirement should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen B. Salai
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Dated: May 17, 2000

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